

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION IX

75 Hawthorne Street - WTR-3-2 San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

Ivan Sydney, Business Manager First Mesa Consolidated Villages P.O. Box 260 Polacca, AZ 86042 Thursday, August 13, 2015

## REMINDER NOTICE MONTHLY COLIFORM BACTERIA MONITORING FOR DRINKING WATER

Polacca, PWS ID#0400106 July 2015

This notice is to remind you of your responsibility for completing monthly coliform bacteria monitoring for the public water system listed above. Coliform bacteria monitoring results have not been received by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for the past month. If this has been completed, please forward the results to the EPA Region 9 office as soon as possible.

40 CFR 141.21 requires the public water system listed above to monitor for coliform bacteria and report the analytical results to EPA on a monthly basis. Monthly bacteriological monitoring helps ensure that contamination problems are discovered and can be corrected before a disease outbreak occurs. Failure to monitor a public water supply system or to report the results is a violation of Federal law and may result in enforcement action by EPA. Most important, failure to monitor prevents your community from knowing whether the drinking water is safe or not.

Whenever a drinking water violation occurs, the community must be notified. The enclosed Public Notice (#1) can be used to meet your public notification requirements for failure to monitor for coliform bacteria and what the system has done to correct the problem. Fill in the date and steps being taken to correct the problem to complete the notification. This notice must be provided to all customers served by this public water system before the end of August 2015. A copy must be provided to EPA along with certification of publication/posting/hand delivery no later than September 10, 2015.

40 CFR 141.31 requires the water system supplier to report the analytical results to EPA, at the latest, by the 10th of the month following the month in which the sample was collected. All monitoring results should be sent to EPA at the following address:

US EPA Region IX
Attn: Data Manager
75 Hawthorne Street, WTR-3-2
San Francisco, CA 94105
Email pdf to: DataManager@epa.gov

If you have any questions regarding the coliform bacteria monitoring requirements or if you feel our records are in error, please call Bessie Lee at (415) 972-3776.

## Enclosure

CC: Herman Honanie, Chairman

Alfonso Sakeva, Water Operator Lionel Puhuyesva, Director, WRP Sharon Grover, Administrative Assistant

## PUBLIC NOTICE OF VIOLATION OF FEDERAL DRINKING WATER STANDARDS

DATE:
Polacca, PWS ID#0400106
Statement of Violations: This public water supply system has violated federal drinking water regulations by failing to sample the drinking water, analyze the samples for coliform bacteria, and report the results of the coliform analyses to EPA. The violation occurred in the month of July 2015.
Health Effects Information: The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sets drinking water standards and has determined that the presence of total coliform bacteria is a possible health concern.
By failing to monitor for coliform bacteria, the system has no information on the bacteriological quality of the water it delivered to its customers. Without monitoring, the water cannot be considered safe.
Total coliform bacteria are common in the environment and are generally not harmful themselves. The presence of these bacteria in drinking water, however, generally is a result of a problem with water treatment, or the pipes, which distribute the water, and indicates that the water may be contaminated with organisms that can cause disease. Disease symptoms may include diarrhea, cramps, nausea, and possibly jaundice, and any associated headaches and fatigue. These symptoms, however, are not just associated with disease-causing organisms in drinking water, but may also be caused by a number of factors other than your drinking water. Drinking water, which meets this standard, is usually not associated with a health risk from disease-causing bacteria and should be considered safe.
<b>Population at Risk:</b> Small children and infants, elderly persons, and persons with immune system disorders are at <u>greatest</u> risk.
The following steps are being taken to correct the problem:
What the user can do: As a precautionary measure, bring water to a rolling boil

for 1 minute before drinking or using to prepare uncooked foods.

For additional information, please contact Ivan Sydney

At this telephone number: (928) 737-2670

Users will be notified when the water system comes back into compliance with federal drinking water regulations.